



The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the NH Department of Environmental Services

September 2017

The Municipal EcoLink is a monthly e-bulletin designed to inform you of the latest environmental ideas, trends, grants, rules and more from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES). We respectfully request that the following is electronically distributed or otherwise made available to your municipal committees, councils and boards. Please feel free to post it on your municipal website as well. You may read past issues at [The Municipal EcoLink](#)

Change to Individual Sewage Disposal System Law

Based on changes to the law governing individual sewage disposal systems, as of September 16, NHDES Subsystems Bureau will no longer require documentation of local approval prior to accepting and processing applications for the replacement of failed individual sewage disposal systems. For more information or questions regarding this change, contact Rob Tardif at Robert.tardif@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-2904.

GSCCC Quarterly Stakeholders Meeting

The next Granite State Clean Cities Coalition Quarterly Stakeholder's Meeting will be held on Friday September 22 at New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, 29 Hazen Drive in Concord, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. At the meeting, Jamie Page Deaton, managing editor of *U.S. News and World Report's* Best Car rankings, will discuss current alternative fuel technologies available to consumers, models currently and soon to be on the market, as well as the current state of alternative fuel vehicle sales. Please contact Tim White at timothy.white@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-5552 with questions.

Gravel & Dirt Road Maintenance Workshop

A one day workshop on cost effective gravel and dirt road maintenance and improvements while reducing pollutants to protect and restore water quality will be held September 29, 2017, 9 AM to 3:30 PM (8:30 registration) at the Gilford Community Church, 19 Potter Hill Road, Gilford, NH. Hosted by NHDES' Watershed Assistance Section and the Belknap County Conservation District, this workshop is designed for road agents, public works department staff, road associations, gravel/dirt road owners, private contractors, watershed and lake associations, and interested residents. Registration is \$45 and includes morning refreshments, a hot lunch, and certificates of Attendance and 5 EnviroCert Prof. Development hours. Topics include: Innovative drainage BMPs, permitting, road surface & materials, drainage easements and maintenance responsibilities. Visit <https://www4.des.state.nh.us/blogs/watershed/> for more information and registration, or contact Lisa Morin, Belknap County Conservation District, (603) 527-5880 or lisa.morin@nh.nacdnet.net with "Gravel & Dirt Road Workshop" in subject line.

Back to School... Is Your School AHERA Compliant?

As students and faculty return to school this month, make sure your school's Asbestos Management plans are up-to-date and in compliance with the **Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act** (AHERA), 40 CFR 763, Subpart E. The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services urges all schools in your municipality to provide a safe and healthy educational environment. For more information, contact the NHDES Asbestos Management Program at (603) 271-1373, or visit the Program's webpage at: <http://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/air/cb/ceps/ams/index.htm>

AltWheels Fleet Day

AltWheels Fleet Day is the largest meeting of corporate and municipal Fleet Managers on the East Coast. Come see and hear the latest in fleet transportation technologies, alternative fuels and fleet management practices at the 12th annual Fleet Day event on October 2, 2017. This year's Fleet Day will be hosted at the Four Points by Sheraton hotel and conference center on Route 1 in Norwood, MA. For more information see <http://www.altwheels.org/fleet-day>

State Clean Diesel Program

The Air Resources Division has limited funding through the State Clean Diesel Program under the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) for local/state governments and businesses with vehicles and equipment operating in New Hampshire. We will be accepting project proposals between October 1 and October 15, 2017. A draft request for proposal and additional information is available under Forms/Applications on our Diesel Vehicle page. <http://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/air/tsb/tps/msp/diesel-vehicles/index.htm>

Arsenic in Drinking Water – Science and Solutions for Local Planning, Health, and Building Officials

The NH Arsenic Consortium will hold its annual meeting on Friday, October 13, 2017 at NHDES/NHDHHS. Nearly half of the state's population uses water from private wells at home, and about one in five of those wells has unhealthy levels of naturally occurring arsenic. The meeting will include updates on health effects research and efforts to improve awareness of and reduce exposure to arsenic in water and food. The featured speaker will report on extensive efforts in New Jersey to test private wells. The afternoon will feature breakout discussions to develop a roadmap to address this important environmental health issue. Advance registration is required; there is no cost to attendees.

National Drug Takeback Day is October 28, 2017

For information on the location of over 80 medicine drop boxes in New Hampshire or how to participate with dozens of other law enforcement agencies in the National Drug Takeback Day on October 28, go to www.nh.gov/medsafety

9th Annual Local Energy Solutions Conference, October 28

Join us at the 9th Annual Local Energy Solutions Conference, New Hampshire's premiere conference for clean energy. LES 2017 will be held on October 28 at the solar-powered Grappone Center in Concord, NH, and will feature multi-track sessions on projects, policy and technology, great networking, panel discussions, pitch challenges to address our most topical energy challenges, local cuisine, and a surprise keynote address. More details and to register for early-bird rates: www.nhenergy.org.

Development of new Instream Flow Rules (Env-Wq 1900)

Discussion documents covering parts of the proposed Instream Flow Rules have been posted on the ISF Rulemaking 2016-2017 website at https://www4.des.state.nh.us/blogs/rmac/?page_id=2510 Notices about meetings and plans for rulemaking will be posted there. For more information, contact Wayne Ives, Instream Flow Specialist, Wayne.Ives@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-3548.

Asset Management workshop

NHDES is hosting its 4th annual Asset Management Workshop—"The Next Dimension" at 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH on November 2, 2017. This workshop will provide New Hampshire drinking water, wastewater and stormwater system operators and managers with a better understanding of asset management best practices. Most importantly, this training will provide water utility operators & managers with means and methods to leverage your current and/or future technology implementation to maximize asset management programs. There will be ample opportunity to discuss your ideas and network throughout the day. This workshop will provide testimonial presentations from your peers, panel discussions, and the ability to interact with representatives from software companies that are used in New Hampshire and neighboring states. Forms and information are at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/asset-managment/categories/training.htm>

Asset Management Planning Grant Program

The NHDES Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau is pleased to announce another round of the Asset Management Planning Grant program. This grant is intended to assist community water systems in developing an asset management plan. The program will provide community water systems a 100% matching grant up to \$20,000 to conduct asset management initiatives. Applications will be accepted until December 12, 2017. Eligible systems include Community Water Systems serving a population of 200 or greater. An information packet and application are available on the DWGB website <https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/asset-managment/documents/nhdes-w-03->

[021.docx](#) . Feel free to contact Luis Adorno at (603) 271-2472 or luis.adorno@des.nh.gov if you have any questions or would like to discuss your proposal.

Small Storage Tank Inspection

The NHDES Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau is pleased to announce the Small Community Public Water System Tank Inspection Grant program. Atmospheric and hydropneumatic tanks are vital components of a small water system and need to be properly maintained. To evaluate the condition of a tank and its remaining life expectancy, it needs to be inspected internally, and if accessible, externally too. NHDES offers small water systems a 100% matching grant of up to \$4,000 per tank of 20,000 gallons or less to perform tank inspections. NHDES will award a maximum of \$10,000 for each water system (enough for three tanks) to perform those long-neglected inspections in 2017. Applications are accepted throughout the year. For more information or to obtain an application, please visit <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/asset-managment/index.htm> or contact Luis Adorno at (603) 271-2472 or luis.adorno@des.nh.gov .

New Website and Training for NH Coastal Viewer Mapping Tool

New Hampshire GRANIT and the NHDES Coastal Program are excited to launch a new website and training program for the New Hampshire Coastal Viewer mapping tool: www.nhcoastalviewer.org. The NH Coastal Viewer, which first launched in 2015, is a web-based mapping tool that makes spatial datasets about community assets, natural resources, and hazards within New Hampshire's 42 coastal watershed communities publicly accessible in one place. NH Coastal Viewer users, which include municipal and state officials, planners, engineers and coastal watershed residents, can explore datasets such as Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) floodplain maps and sea-level rise scenarios; tax parcel boundaries; conserved lands and priorities areas for future conservation; dams and culverts; habitat information including eelgrass, oysters, and salt marshes; aquaculture sites; recreational access points; aerial imagery and topographic information; and much more. Users can analyze data, make maps, and save projects to share with others. The new website streamlines access to the NH Coastal Viewer, provides new training resources including video tutorials, and displays examples of how the data can be used to tell stories about our coastal resources. Bookmark www.nhcoastalviewer.org on your favorite internet browser and start exploring the many fascinating and useful datasets about our coastal watershed!

Solid Waste Operator Training & Certification Program – Continuing Professional Development Workshops

The Solid Waste Operator Training Program has posted the 2018 Workshop Calendar at <https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/swrtas/workshop.htm>. In addition to the NHDES Sponsored workshops there is a list of approved Third-Party Vendors who offer trainings across the state and online. For more information on the SWOT Program, please contact Tara Mae Albert at Tara.Albert@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-3713.

News on Rules

The JLCAR approved the Youth Camp rules (Env-Wq 900) at its August meeting. The rules will take effect on September 1, 2017, and are available online at <http://www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rulemaking/index.htm#aquality>

Survey of Municipality Communication Preferences

NHDES would appreciate your feedback on how best to communicate with our city and town officials. Please take just a few minutes of your time to fill out our survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DZV2DXV> to help us to better deliver the information you need.

Please send your comments for the editor to editor@des.nh.gov

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